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For Immediate Release

ACTING CHAIRWOMAN ROSENWORCEL SIGNS MOU WITH AUSTRALIAN COUNTERPART TO WORK TOGETHER IN FIGHTING ILLEGAL ROBOCALLS AND SPOOFING

International Information Sharing and Enforcement Coordination Is Vital to Enforcing Consumer Protections Laws Against Robocall Scams

WASHINGTON, June 3, 2021—The U.S. Federal Communications Commission and the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) have formally committed to work together to develop and coordinate a global approach to addressing unlawful robocalls or robotexts, and the unlawful use of inaccurate caller ID information or "spoofing." This "Mutual Assistance in the Enforcement of Laws on Certain Unlawful Communications" agreement will foster the countries' exchange of information for the purpose of enforcing and securing compliance with anti-robocalling and spoofing laws. The agreement was signed by FCC Acting Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel and ACMA Chair and Agency Head Nerida O'Loughlin.

"Robocall scams are a global problem that require global commitment and cooperation," said FCC Acting Chairwoman Rosenworcel. "With these irritating calls coming from near and far, we need international cooperation, information sharing, and enforcement to address this matter. I want to thank our Australian friends for working with us on this agreement. By joining together we can help get these scammers off of our networks and protect consumers and businesses around the world."

ACMA Chair Nerida O'Loughlin said the agreement builds on the already strong strategic and working relationship between the ACMA and FCC in the regulation of unsolicited communications.

"Scam activity has significant social and economic impact on consumers, with the scale and sophistication of malicious activity increasing," Ms O'Loughlin said. "This agreement will see us working closer with our American counterparts to crack down on unsolicited communications in instances where cross-border issues are involved."

The "Mutual Assistance in the Enforcement of Laws on Certain Unlawful Communications" agreement between the FCC and ACMA is available at: https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-372922A1.pdf

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).